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CONCRETING IN PROGRESS AT KAKHOVSKAYA GES

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

In April 1953 Dneprostroy began placing concrete for the main structures of the Kakhovka Hydraulic Center. In an article of 17 July 1953, S. Andrianov, chief of Dneprostroy, declared that placement of concrete had first priority at the construction project. He stated that, with more than 1.2 million cubic meters of concrete to be placed in the hydraulic center, the tempo of concreting was to be stepped up to 75,000-80,000 cubic meters per month. The workers of Dneprostroy pledged to exceed the annual plan for placement of concrete.(1) In 1953, they are to place in the main structures of the hydraulic center no less than 450,000 cubic meters of concrete.(2)

To coordinate work on the central construction site, three new administrations have been formed: an Administration for Lock Construction, an Administration for GES Construction, and an Administration for Dam Construction.(3)

Prior to July a total of 16,000 cubic meters of concrete had been placed in the lock (2); of this amount, about 8,000 were placed in June.(4) Concreting quotas for April and May were not fulfilled.(1) The Administration for Lock Construction pledged to place 20,000 cubic meters of concrete in July instead of the 17,000 planned (3), but succeeded in placing only 12,000.(4) By 25 July 1953, concrete had been placed in 63 blocks of the lock; concreting of three sections of the lock had been completed and work on a fourth was in progress. The foundation sites of the upper and lower ends of the lock were being made level and smooth.(3) In early August, concrete was being placed in the lock in large quantities.(5)

STAT

- 1 -

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In early July 1953, concreting of the spillway dam began with placement of concrete in the supports of the trestlework bridge over which concrete will be delivered to the construction sites; these supports form a permanent part of the dam.(6) In all, 17 supports containing 3,000 cubic meters of concrete and reinforced concrete were to be completed in July.(3) A number of factors, however, were disrupting this plan. Suppliers were late with manufacture of the bay structurals for the trestlework bridge; the Leningrad Hoist and Transport Equipment Plant was delaying delivery of gantry cranes (1); iron for steel reinforcements was not being supplied; and, because the Production and Technical Division of Dneprostroy had drawn the plans for the supports incorrectly, it was having to redraw them.(3)

Although the trestlework bridge for delivering concrete extended only as far as the lock construction site in early August, it is planned to have it cross the second excavation pit in which the spillway dam and GES building are to be erected and to return again to the concrete plant. Rails will be laid down on the trestlework bridge and concrete is to be supplied in railroad cars.(5) When all installations engaged in supplying concrete are in operation, production capacity will be 5,000 cubic meters of concrete in 24 hours.(1)

About 10 million cubic meters of earth were removed by hydraulic means from the foundation sites of the lock and the spillway dam and GES building.(5) This work was completed ahead of schedule.(1) The hydraulic monitors which were used to level off the bottom of the foundation pits eject a 25-30 meter stream of water with a force of 10 kilograms per centimeter. In one hour they can wash away 25 cubic meters of earth, turning it into mud pulp.(5)

It is planned to begin construction of the dam across the channel of the river one year ahead of schedule. Eight million cubic meters of earth are to be placed in the dam within the short period of 5-6 months. In order to do this, 2 million cubic meters of earth are being deposited in reserve at Kazatskaya village. In 1954, this entire reserve will be placed in the dam across the Dnepr in one or two months.(3)

In the first half of 1953, work on the Kakhovka Reservoir was in progress. Of the total 2 million cubic meters of earth needed for the breakwater dam, over 400,000 cubic meters had been placed by early July.(2) In the spring, preparation of the basin for the reservoir started on a vast scale between Kakhovka and Zaporozh'ye. The carrying out of operations falls to a number of ministries and the executive committees of the Dnepropetrovskaya, Zaporozh'skaya, and Khersonskaya oblast soviets. Preparation of the basin, which includes shifting 250 kilometers of railroads, motor roads, and communication lines, construction of protective dams, and the moving of several thousand houses, was proceeding very slowly and in an unorganized fashion.(1) A future port for Nikopol' was under construction at Lapinka, 7 kilometers from the Dnepr River.(7)

The material and technical base for construction of the Kakhovka Hydraulic Center was created with the aid of 35 scientific research institutes and planning organizations. The work of the scientific research institutes at Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev, Khar'kov, and Tbilisi was expected to lead to the introduction of economies in construction. Meanwhile, the party organization and construction workers were taking steps to save not less than 3.6 percent of the planned cost of construction.(1)

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SOURCES

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4. Trud, 2 Aug 53
5. Moscow, Komsomol'skaya Pravda, 5 Aug 53
6. Pravda Ukrainy, 10 Jul 53
7. Moskovskaya Pravda, 25 Jul 53



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- 3 -

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